



The

Blurb



Newsletter of The Phil–Mont Mobile Radio Club
Public Service Since 1949

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November 2002



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The Blurb is published monthly by, and for, the members of **The PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC.** whose purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. *Copying and quoting* is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs. Requests should be sent to the Editor. *Subscriptions* are available to non-members for \$10, addressed to the Treasurer.

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Submissions deadline: all copy must be in the hands of the Editors by the 20th of the previous month.

Club Stations

W3QV Club Repeater – Trustee: W3BBB

Ridge & Port Royal Avenues, Philadelphia, PA

147.03 MHz + PL 91.5 Hz

444.80 MHz + PL 186.2 Hz

W3EM – Field Day and special events station – Trustee W3VVS

Club 2m simplex frequency : 147.51 MHz

Sunday Morning Net Schedules

- **2 Meter Net** at 09:30et on W3QV repeater
- **10-on-10 Net** at 10:00et 28.393 MHz USB (±QRM)
- **75 meter Net** at 10:20et 3.993 MHz LSB

Contact Philmont:

P.O. Box 88, Abington, PA 19001
for club information contact any club officer or the repeaters listed below

<http://www.phil-mont.org>
webmaster Steve **WU3I** wu3i@arrl.net

Address and club directory changes, and articles that are for the PMRC membership e-mail list should be sent to: **wb3koj@comcat.com**

License Examinations

are held on the first non-holiday Thursday of every month at The Franklin Institute Science Museum. Registration finishes at 6 p.m. Doors close at 6:30 PM–SHARP!

The club meets

at 7:30 PM on the second non-holiday Wednesday of every month except July and August at

The Masonic Home
801 Ridge Pike
Lafayette Hill, PA
19444-1799

All visitors are welcome!

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Directors: **WU3I (02), W3RM (02), W3BBB(03), N3MT (03), N3XKE (02), W3AOK(03), W3WF (A)**

Committees

Archives: NG3P
Audit: NS3K
Awards: W3WF

Blurb folding:
WB3KOJ & WB3KOH
Directory: WB3KOJ
DX: N3MT
Emerg. Coord.: N3XKE
Field Day: WU3I

Internet: WU3I
Membership: W3LEN
Net Control: KB3IV
Publicity: W3RM
Program: Club VP

Public Service:
W3CH & W3WF
Refreshments: W3AOK
Repeater: W3BBB
Skywarn: WX3PHI
Sunshine: WU3I

Youth: N3MT
TVI: W3VVS
VE Program: ND3Q
W3AA Trustee: WU3I
Welcome: K3CJ.

Phil-Mont Net Operations

Recent changes in several aspects of club operations have led to a revised net-control format for the PMRC nets. For convenience of the Net Control Stations, we're printing the new format and the current NCS schedule framework. (Some folks may not be aware that the NCS duties are on a fixed rotation.)

Members who are interested in participating as a Net Control Station should contact the Net committee chairman Ed KB3IV. We especially need to fill the vacancy on 10m created by W3AA's departure.

Phil-Mont Net Control Format

Good morning, this is {your call}, my name is {your name}, your Net Control Station for the Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club Sunday Morning 2 meter and 70 centimeter net. Is there any priority traffic? Emergency traffic can of course break into the net at any time.

[drop carrier, pause for priority traffic]

This net meets every Sunday morning at 9:30 AM though the W3QV repeater, for the purpose of making club announcements, passing traffic and information of interest to the local Ham community.

We welcome all amateurs to check in and participate. You do not need a PL tone on 2 meters to check in during net time. Phil-Mont also

has Net Control Stations for your participation on the following frequencies:

at 1000 hrs, the "Ten-on-Ten" net on 10 meters, 28.393 MHz USB
at 1020 hrs, the 75 meter Phone Net on 75 meters, 3.393 MHz LSB

All Net Control Stations will be on for at least 15 minutes.

You are invited to attend our regular monthly meeting, on the second Wednesday of each month at The Masonic Home, 801 Ridge Pike, Lafayette Hill, Pennsylvania. Directions to the meeting place are available on the club website. Talk-in on this repeater is also available. Refreshments are served at 7:00 PM, followed by the meeting at 7:30 PM.

License Upgrade Examinations are held the first non-holiday Thursday of the month at the Franklin Institute, 20th and the Benjamin Franklin Parkway. Examinations begin promptly at 6:30 PM. Applicants for examination should arrive at 6:00 PM. No one will be admitted after the door is closed at 6:30 PM. Applicants must bring two means of identification which show name and address, their original license (plus a copy), any upgrade certificates (plus a copy) and \$10.00, cash preferred.

Information concerning membership in Phil-Mont is available at our regular monthly meeting and also at our club website at www.phil-mont.org. Membership is open to licensed amateurs only, but all are welcome to attend meetings, which feature programs and speakers of interest to everyone.

[Announcements: Give any announcements you have--check the Blurb.]

Are there any further announcements for the net?

[Recognize and allow people in turn to make their announcements]

I will now take **check-ins** from mobile, QRP and distant (DX) stations.

[Then take groups by suffix, A-C, A-H, A-N, A-S, A-Z, or any orderly method you can handle.

Please try to be personable and use first names whenever possible. After the first round of check-ins, give the announcements (including those made by others) again.

Keep it light, but orderly. Take any further check-ins, and then

read the Birthdays, for the coming week only from The Blurb.

*When there are no **further check-ins** (approximately 10:00 AM):*

- **thank** everyone for checking in*
- remind everyone of the **other nets**, and*
- invite everyone to check-in **next week**.*

Then clear and return the repeater to normal service.]

Phil–Mont Auction Jan. 8, 2003

The 2003 Phil–Mont Auctionfest will be with us soon; January 8th 2003 at the Masonic Home. Every year at that time we are amazed by the wide variety of equipment and other paraphernalia offered for sale, as well as being entertained by our skilled auctioneer Russ W3CH and his able assistants.

Imagine a hamfest where you don't need to get up early and drive, where you can remain seated comfortably while the goods are presented to you by our knowledgeable and friendly staff.

This is also an excellent opportunity to profitably dispose of equipment and parts that have become surplus to your needs, while supporting PMRC. With this Blurb you should receive a promotional flyer for the Auctionfest, with the auction rules and a form to accompany each item offered for sale printed on the back..

For more information, contact PMRC at P.O. Box 88 – Abington PA 19001 or call Russ, W3CH, 610–631–3447 ext.3, e–mailw3ch@arrl.net

NG3P New PMRC Archivist

The PMRC club archives are now in the able hands of our assistant Blurb editor, Gwen NG3P.

It's been fascinating to have the rich and long history of our club right

PMRC Nets Schedule Odd months (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov)

	2m (0930 hrs)	10m (1000 hrs)	75m (1020 hrs)
week 1	K3XS	open	W2AJV
week 2	WU3I	open	WA3KIO
week 3	KB3IV	open	KB3IV
week 4	WB3KOJ	open	W3STW
week 5	W3BBB	open	W3BBB

Even months (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec)

	2m (0930 hrs)	10m (1000 hrs)	75m (1020 hrs)
week 1	WA3NSP	open	W2AJV
week 2	N3OWM	open	WA3KIO
week 3	KB3IV	open	KB3IV
week 4	N3FTY	open	W3STW
week 5	W3BBB	open	W3BBB

here in our home; there's an amazing assortment of documents, photos, film and video, and artifacts accumulated over the years. We'll be publishing some of the documents and photos here in the Blurb as space permits, so that everyone can share in the tradition and history of the club.

For example, on this month's cover we have a photo taken in 1956 of the W3RQZ Mobile Communications Center, converted from a used Bookmobile from Springfield Township. Newspaper articles from the time tell us the van was painted fire-engine red, and contained four operating positions, a public-address system, and an electrical generator.

But who is that handsome young man at the wheel? I'm sure some of our more senior club members could tell us...

Brian's Run Dec 1st 2002

Help is needed for Brian's Run Sunday 12/01/02.

This is a very small event and will only take about two hours of your time. The run takes about an hour but you have to get in to your check point an our before as they close the streets off.

We only need about 20 Hams for the event.

Please contact:
Russ, W3CH
Charlie, W3WF

November Meeting

Don't miss Phil-Mont's November general meeting. Our guest speaker will be Dennis Silage PhD K3DS, and his topic will be "Say Goodbye to SSB and FM?".

Come on out and learn about new radio technologies, and enjoy the excellent new meeting facilities at the Masonic Home, where our first meeting in October was a very well-attended success.

It's amazing how much more comfortable it is to meet in the new venue. Flat open spaces (as opposed to the rather confined auditorium environment we've had for so many years) favor the casual conversations and socializin that can be such an important part of our monthly get-togethers.

MS Thank-You at February '03 PMRC Meeting

The MS Thank You to all the Hams will be held at the February Phil-Mont meeting (2/12/03) for all who helped out at any of the MS events this past year.

Thank yous will be handed out to all, as well as awards for 5,10,15 and 20 years of service.

Please plan to make it to the Thank You party. It will be held at the new

home of PMRC, The Masonic Home of Pennsylvania, 801 Ridge Pike, Lafayette Hill PA just off the Blue Route and just north of Philly. Lots of free parking. Plan to make this fun night! -de W3CH

CCAR announces Emergency Communications Training: November 23

Chester County ARES/RACES will hold a 6-hour intensive Level I Emergency Communications review seminar on Saturday, November 23rd at 8:30AM at the Chester County Government Services Center, 601 Westtown Road, West Chester (talk-in 146.94- pl 131.8, 446.525- pl 100),

There is no cost for the seminar, but participants are expected to have obtained and read the ARRL text "Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Course--Level I" (2nd edition) or alternatively worked through the online text, activities and questions at <http://www.w3qa.net/ccar>. The seminar is not a comprehensive course. There is no cost for the seminar.

Immediately following at 3:00 PM, same place, is a formal ARECC exam session in which Level I, II, and III certification exams will be given by ARRL Certified Examiners. All students pay \$10 for each level exam they attempt—not for the entire session like VE exams. Cash or checks made payable to ARRL are acceptable.

We give all three exams in order beginning with Level I. Students may take higher level exams as they pass the prerequisite levels. You earn certifications based on a passing grade of 80% or better. If you fail an exam, you may immediately retake a second version of it at no cost.

We report all the results to the ARRL according to their published guidelines and rules. If you earn a certificate, the ARRL will send it to you directly from headquarters in Newington, CT.

All licensed Radio Amateurs are welcome. Register by sending name, callsign, phone and email address by email to: registration@w3qa.net or do it online at: <http://www.w3qa.net/ccar/register.htm>.
--de W3QA

W3CJB gains ticket, loses tooth, makes QST

On page 20 of the November QST we see the smiling face of Caitlin Brady, proudly holding her brand new CSCE as well as a baby tooth she removed during the exam.

Our congratulations both to Caitlin and to her proud papa, Chris N3CB.

New email address
for K2BN:

k2bn@cox.net

MS-150 sign-up can now be done online

We now have a new level of ease in signing up as a volunteer radio operator for the MS-150 City to Shore Bike Tour.

If you're over 18, and aren't signing up as a Super-Booster (those folks who have their callsigns printed on the back of the shirt), you can now submit your volunteer information completely online on the Phil-Mont

web site.

No downloading, no printing, no mailing, no stamping, no faxing; just visit the Phil-Mont website and follow the link for "Submit MS-150 Volunteer Information". Fill in the blanks, being careful to provide all the necessary information. (We've done some web programming that should remind you if you forget something important.)

When you're finished, just click on the button at the bottom of the page and your information will be sent

directly to Russ W3CH and Charlie W3WF.

This year there's no excuse for not getting that form filled out in *plenty* of time before the event, so don't wait till the last minute. Get on the list for next year's MS-150 *early* this time around; it takes only a minute or two.

Philly Youngsters Meet Astronaut Peggy Whitson via Ham Radio

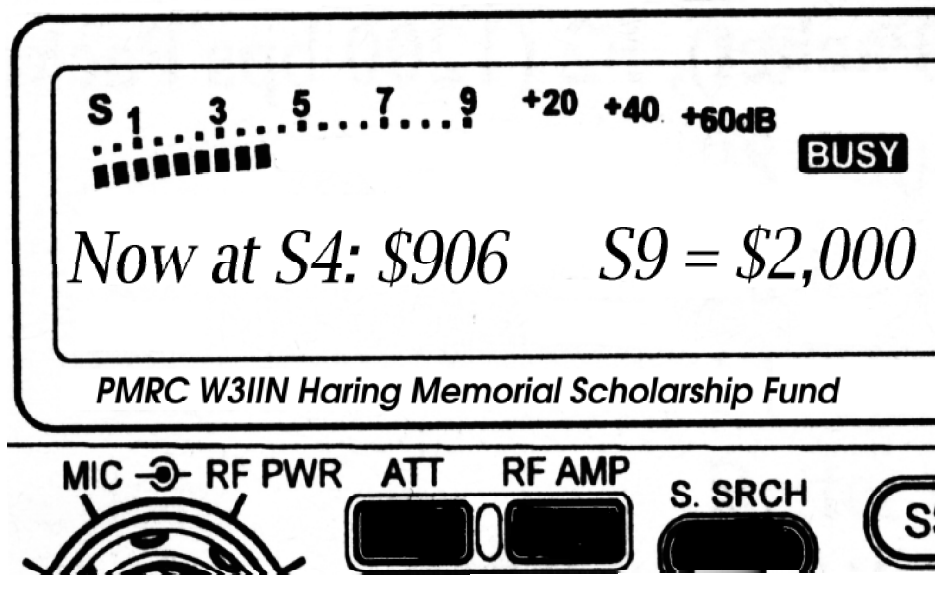
NEWINGTON, CT, Oct 25, 2002—US Astronaut Peggy Whitson, KC5ZTD, told students in Philadelphia that she thinks it's possible there's life on other planets somewhere in the universe. Using NA1SS aboard the International Space Station October 22, Whitson answered several questions from youngsters attending Spruce Hill Christian School. The contact was arranged via the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) project.

Whitson said one of the most "fun" things she does aboard the ISS is look out the window. "Seeing the earth from this vantage point of over 200 miles above the earth is really impressive. It's really a beautiful place that we live on, and I think we take it for granted sometimes, when we live there." She said she also enjoys exercise—a necessity for long-term spaceflight. "We obviously aren't exposed to the effects of gravity, so we have to work very hard to maintain our physical fitness," she said.

Don't forget the Scholarship Fund!

Time is running out to reach our goal of \$2,000 by January 1 to fund a scholarship for a deserving young ham in the Eastern Pennsylvania and Southern New Jersey ARRL sections.

We're still less than halfway to the goal...



Life in microgravity leads to demineralization of bones, Whitson explained. When the Expedition 5 crew returns to Earth next month, she said, it will take months before their bones return to normal. She said, however, that the crew likely will recover much more quickly from the other aftereffects of several months in space, such as the dizziness or lightheadedness that some returning astronauts have reported.

Whitson said she was inspired at a young age to become an astronaut and, although the training program was difficult, she never wanted to give up. "There's lots of times when training is really really hard, but, I'll tell you what, if you're pursuing your dream, it's always worth it."

The ARISS QSO got off to an uncertain start when Whitson and ground control operator Nancy Rocheleau, WH6PN, in Hawaii, apparently got on different frequencies. "She was trying to find where we were, and we were trying to find where she was," Rocheleau commented after the somewhat-shortened contact. Initially, Rocheleau was able to copy NA1SS, but Whitson did not hear WH6PN.

Once things got under way for real, the contact lasted a little more than seven minutes, and Whitson faded out while in the midst of answering a "bonus" question the students had prepared in case there was time. All students got to ask their prepared questions, however, and teacher Vicki Taylor was pleased with how things eventually worked out. "It was very exciting," she said, "and we all learned a lot, I think."

Rocheleau later complimented the students on how well they'd handled themselves. "You were very well prepared," she said. Remote audio between the school and the ISS via WH6PN in Hawaii was handled through a WorldCom teleconferencing circuit.

Whitson, who is related to the wife of the school's principal, Seth Cohen, asked ARISS to arrange the Spruce Hill contact as a "crew pick." ARISS is an international project with US participation by NASA, ARRL and AMSAT.

FOR SALE:

30-foot self-supporting tower. Galvanized and painted; no rust! Shelf welded at midpoint for rotator. Presently installed on thin concrete patio base with support brackets to wall of house, but designed to be free standing on 1-cu.yd. concrete base. Supplied with 1.5" o.d., 0.2" wall Schedule 80 6061-T6 aluminum pipe mast extending 8-feet above top of tower. Rugged, broadband 2M J- Antenna, concentric with top of mast, is fully grounded (Plummer's Delight) with gamma match. \$150.

Ham-M Rotator. Excellent condition; very little mechanical use. \$125

2M 16-Element 2-Bay "Skeleton Slot" Beam. Fully grounded, rugged construction. \$50. All items above for \$300. Buyer removes.

Three broadband folded dipoles for 80, 40, and 10M. Made with 300 ohm heavy duty ladder line. Broadband. All have reasonable length feed line with neat, rugged feed point strain relief. \$15, \$10, \$5, respectively; all for \$25.

Kenwood TS-820S HF CW/SSB Transceiver. P-P 6146 Output. Works great. Operating and Service manuals. \$250.

Timewave DSP-59+ Digital noise/heterodyne eliminator & ultra narrow bandwidth audio filter. Great for CW. \$95.

Johnson Viking Matchbox Antenna Tuner. Mint. \$70.

Delta Model 1200 Scroll Saw. 24" Throat; 1/4 HP Motor. Functions as a Scroll (Jig) Saw, Saber Saw or Filing Machine. Cast iron Table 14"x14"x1.25" tilts through +/-45°. Cast Iron Frame; Oil-immersed, rugged roller bearing crank mechanism. Sophisticated blade guides, chucks and jig saw tension spring. Built-in pump supplies air jet to clear chips from cutting area. Work Light; assorted metal and wood saws and "reverse tooth" metal files. Mounted on roll-around cabinet with varnished birch top, mahogany trim. \$150.

Bob Thomas, W3NE. 215-247-2427

Philmont Board Of Director's Meeting 10-2-02

Attending the meeting were Rick N3FD, Jim W3BBB, Dick W3RM, Al W3STW, Gene N3XKE, Steve WU3I, Ed KB3IV, and Fred WA3KIO. Ed KB3IV called the meeting to order.

Dick W3RM gave the treasurer's report. Things were slow with only 2 checks being written during the summer. The W3IIM scholarship fund is where we now need money. Equipment donated now will go to the scholarship fund with donations tax deductible. The money for next year's scholarship has to be in by the end of December. Al W3STW made a motion to accept the report with Steve WU3I seconding it.

Jim W3BBB reported that the repeater is working with a few minor details that will be looked into.

An application for membership for Laura KB3LRA was voted on and accepted. Let's welcome Laura. Steve WU3I explained the use of ECHOLINK and its possibilities with Philmont.

VE testing: Various sites are being looked at for future VE testing with the approval of Dusty ND3Q.

The future of W3AA was discussed with a possible site and any legal issues to be worked out. Ed KB3IV made a motion for Gene N3XKE and AL W3STW to pursue looking into Northeast High. Steve WU3I seconded it.

Rick N3FD spoke to the board that

the published simplex frequency of 147.51 does not follow the issued board plan. Dick suggested listening on 147.54 with a possible move later on.

More net controls are needed for the Sunday two meter net. It was decided to continue the 10-meter nets with the 75-meter net controls running them for now.

Ed KB3IV reported that the phone number for club information is no longer valid. For now, board members can be contacted through the web site or on the repeater or through the P.O. Box published both in the Blurb and on the website.

Dick W3RM offered the use of a telephone line, which for now will direct calls to the other sources.

Steve WU3I reported on the MS150. Saturday had some hospital activity that kept the ambulances busy. The weather cooperated which helped bring a good turnout.

Future programs are: Jim W3BBB in October with a talk on the operation of the Philmont repeater. November will feature Dennis Silage K3DS with a talk on a new mode similar to IRLP. December will be elections.

Bill W3AOK will head the nominating committee. Dick W3RM asked if there will be a January auction and should he publicize it. The board replied in the affirmative.

Rick N3FD brought up an idea of making Philmont visible at ham fests and public service events. It



202nd Monthly Phil- Mont VE Exam Session Statistics

for October 3, 2002

Three candidates took seven elements, and we had two upgrades and one new ham.

The VE team was chaired by Dusty Rhoads ND3Q, and the other participating VEs were :

Bob Freer W3YLT,
Peter Butler WB2B
Jim McCloskey NS3K
James Perry W3JRP,
Brad Bacik KB8PPA

Upcoming Exam Sessions:

November 7, 2002

December 5, 2002.

(See page 2 for details)

was decided to ask that at the general meeting.

At this time with no new business, the meeting was adjourned.

73 de WA3KIO

Philmont General Meeting 10-9-02

Charlye K3CJ reported 31 people in attendance. Ed KB3IV called the meeting to order for our first time at the Masonic Home in Lafayette

Hill. Thanks to Perry W3PTB and his wife Marion for arranging for the new meeting place.

Dick W3RM has taken temporary treasurer duty along with Mike N3MT as Mike K2BN has left the Philadelphia area.

Scholarship Fund: Dick commented that we need donations by the end of December for next year's W3IIM memorial fund. You can contribute cash or resalable ham equipment both tax deductible.

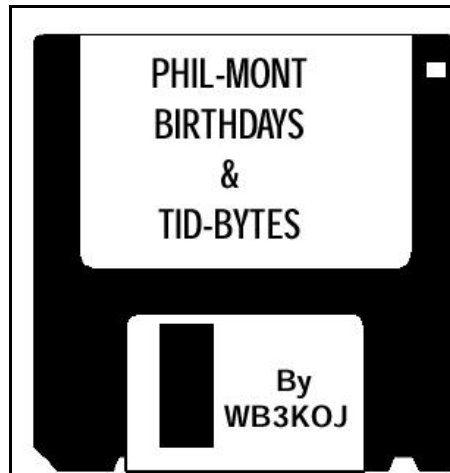
Don WB3KOJ is making adjustments to the directory. Let Don know of any changes to made in the next directory.

Charley K3CJ reported that on October 19th would be a SET – Simulated Emergency Test. They are looking for hams to come out and man SEPTA buses and several hospitals. The army reserve will be playing the casualties. It will start at 8AM behind the old overseas terminal.

Membership: New member Laura Giacchi KB3LRA was voted in at the previous board meeting. Welcome Laura.

Nets: Ed KB3IV said we need several more net controls for 2 meters. The ten-meter net will continue.

Public Service: Russ W3CH thanked everyone who signed up and participated in the past MS150. Russ reported 5739 riders. Forms were available for next years MS150. Steve has also posted them on the website. Brian's Run will be held in December.



Membership Stats:

At press time P.M.R.C. has:
120 FULL PAID MEMBERS
13 FAMILY MEMBERS
3 YOUTH MEMBERS
2 HONORARY MEMBERS
0 PENDING MEMBERS

November Birthdays

- 01 Pauline Green (XYL K3HES)
- 05 Delores Malone (XYL N3MGS)
- Al Tribble – W3STW
- 12 Arnold Sadwin – KC2HX
- 14 Chris McCormick – N3JHR
- 19 Brad Swanson – N3GLH
- 20 Bob Gargano – N3YGY
- 22 Bill Popovic – W3AOK
- 23 Chap Fichera – KB3DQH
- Ted Hassell – KB3HAQ
- 24 Roxanne Pearlstein – N3KQH
- Delores Policarpo (XYL N3PP)
- 25 Dusty Rhoads – ND3Q
- 27 Mel Toren – N2MT
- 28 Elfriede Williams (XYL KB3CPC)
- 29 Bob Nicotero – KB2ERL
- Betty Walmsley (XYL W3DO)

DIRECTORY SUPPLEMENT CHANGE

WA3AZS Phone: Home 215-747-7887 Bus. 215-634-3906

VE testing: Dusty ND3Q reported that testing would still be at the Institute in November and December. After that, days and times may change as a new meeting place will be selected by then.

Nominating committee: Bill W3AOK has said to contact him if interested in running for a position. We are in need of a treasurer to replace Mike K2BN.

Steve WU3I has put the auction form on the website. Changes are coming to the website. If you see something that needs to be changed, contact Steve. The primary location for information about Philmont will be the website, P.O. Box 88 and the repeater.

W3AA has been officially closed.

The console is stripped out, the radios boxed and an itemized list has been sent to the volunteer coordinator at the Institute. Steve will arrive on the 19th to begin removing equipment.

Bill W3AOK has offered to provide storage for the equipment. An antenna party has been scheduled for the 26th weather permitting, to remove remaining antennas that Steve has not already removed. Things are being looked at for the future of W3AA. Steve still needs someone to take the archives. At this time the meeting adjourned and after a short break, Jim W3BBB presented a slide show explaining the operation of the W3QV repeater.

73 de WA3KIO

	November 2002
Fri 01	
Sat 02	
Sun 03	NCS: 2m-K3XS 75m-W2AJV
Mon 04	
Tue 05	Election Day
Wed 06	PMRC Board of Directors' Meeting – WDRV-FM
Thu 07	VE Testing at The Franklin Institute – see Page 2
Fri 08	
Sat 09	
Sun 10	NCS: 2m-WU3I 75m-WA3KIO
Mon 11	Veteran's Day
Tue 12	
Wed 13	PMRC General Meeting – Masonic Home
Thu 14	
Fri 15	
Sat 16	
Sun 17	NCS: 2m-KB3IV 75m-KB3IV
Mon 18	
Tue 19	
Wed 20	
Thu 21	
Fri 22	
Sat 23	CCAR Emergency Communications Training
Sun 24	NCS: 2m-WB3KOJ 75m-W3STW
Mon 25	
Tue 26	
Wed 27	
Thu 28	Thanksgiving
Fri 29	
Sat 30	

First Class Mail

The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club, Inc
641 Kismet Road Philadelphia PA 19115

The Blue